

## ***FWP COMMISSION AGENDA ITEM COVER SHEET***

**Meeting Date:** February 10, 2011

**Agenda Item:** Affiliated Lands

**Division:** Parks

**Time Needed on Agenda for this Presentation:** 15 minutes

### **Background**

Over the years the Parks Division has acquired numerous parcels of land statewide. These lands are generally classified as 'Affiliated Lands.' Many of these sites are not currently actively managed lands nor are they big parcels. The opportunity may exist to dispose of lands that could be managed by other entities to help resolve some land or finance issues.

Primary parcels for consideration include;

- East Gallatin (Bozeman) – 84 acres owned; currently managed by the City of Bozeman.
- Lake Josephine (Billings) – 82 acres owned; currently managed by the City of Billings.
- Indian Road (Townsend) – 15 acres owned; not actively managed.
- Citadel Rock (NE of Geraldine) – 39 acres; DNRC lease; site is not actively managed.
- The Wilson Property (south of Big Sandy) – 320 acres owned; site is not actively managed.
- Fort Maginnis (NE of Lewistown) – 6 acres; DNRC lease; site is not actively managed.

The Parks Division wishes to explore options available for sale or trade of certain parcels of land as part of managing lands more effectively with the goal of improving the park system. The most likely options include the sale or transfer of the parcels to other entities including municipalities, counties, or DNRC.

### **Public Involvement Process & Results**

There has been no public involvement to-date. Once these lands have been researched and an approach identified, the division would establish a public process including any MEPA analysis as necessary. Following the public comment period, any potential land transaction would be presented to the Commission and Land Board for final approval as required.

### **Alternatives and Analysis**

- Alternative #1 – Proceed with exploring the options available for the sale or transfer of certain parks lands.
- Alternative #2 – No action. Do not proceed with analysis and possible disposal of affiliated parks lands. Under this Alternative the parcels would stay “on-the-books” as they have to-date.

### **Agency Recommendation & Rationale**

We recommend the Commission grant tentative approval for the Parks Division to explore the potential options available for the sale or transfer of affiliated land parcels.

### **Proposed Motion**

“I move that the Commission grant tentative approval for the Department to explore the options available for the sale, transfer, or disposal of affiliated land parcels as identified.”